

A MESSAGE TO THE CITIZENS OF APPOMATTOX

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the citizens of Appomattox for the sympathy and support they gave us at last Friday night's Rally. It is nice to know that we are not alone in our struggle for justice.

By the way, did some of you read the statement the Company made in the Lynchburg paper the day after the meeting? Company spokesmen reported that some people were denied the right to speak. Those of you who were present at the meeting certainly know that this was not the case. People were encouraged time and again to speak. In fact, some supervisors did get up and make a few remarks, and that was certainly OK with us. If some of the other company people didn't take advantage of the repeated offer to speak, it was certainly not our fault. We can't put words in their mouths. They'll have to get up on their own two feet and talk for themselves.

We would like to bring the public up to date on the progress of the "Appomattox situation." A meeting between the company and representatives of the workers was held last Saturday with several town's people present including Congressman Abbott and Mayor Buchanan. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Morton, a federal conciliator assigned to this situation to help settle it.

After meeting with both sides separately, Mr. Morton called a joint meeting of the company and worker representatives. Mr. Morton asked us what the conditions were under which we would return to work. We told him we wanted a raise in pay, better treatment and a settlement of all pending grievances. We also offered the company the services of our union's engineering department to help man-

agement set up a good incentive system that would give them more production.

The company flatly refused all of our requests. Mr. Morton then asked Mr. Englander to make some proposal as a basis of settlement. Mr. Englander said he was in no position to make any proposal. When asked by Mr. Morton whether the company was prepared to make some offer after the girls returned to work, Mr. Englander said that he wouldn't say.

But aren't you willing to make any offer, the company official was asked. Mr. Englander replied that he was willing to take the girls back to work but that, if they thought they had been treated badly in the past, he could promise the girls even stricter treatment in the future.

This was the company's only offer - stricter treatment. And this statement was made before Mr. Morton, the committee and several others who were present.

To say that in the face of the company's attitude, we are even more determined to stick it out is an undeniable fact.

Now the company is hiring some girls who aren't from Appomattox in an attempt to break our morale. Well, that doesn't scare us in the least. But what we don't understand is how any girl who had any conscience at all could apply for one of our jobs while the regular hands are out trying to get decent pay and working conditions for all the girls.

We hope the citizens of Appomattox will continue to support us in our struggle for justice and democracy. We thank you.

Committee

EDNA PATTESON
BARBARA PATTESON
SUE CHILDERS

LOUISE CARTER
VIRGINIA WILLIAMS
VIRGINIA MANN

RACHEL PAULETTE
LOUISE BLACKARD
WINNIE BINGHAM

MARY PENNIX
ANNE DAVIS

A. R. Harwood Continues Account of Recent Motor Trip From Virginia to California

(By A. R. Harwood)

From Virginia to California and return in 18 days, Chapter 2.

We left off at Carlsbad, New Mexico, which is about 20 miles from White City, the real gateway to the wonderful Carlsbad Caverns. I consider the visit to these caverns one of the high spots of the trip.

In 1930 the area was taken over by the Federal Government and made "The Carlsbad Caverns National Park," and at this time comprises 19,000 acres.

A six mile drive from White City over winding mountain roads brought us to the top of a mountain and the entrance to the cave where we found about 200 cars and four or five hundred people waiting for the daily tour which takes place at 9:00 A. M. each day and is escorted by several guides. Tickets are bought for \$1.20 and everyone is lined up 'til the exact time for the tour which takes 4 hours of steady slow walking down grade and down stairs until you are about 700 feet below surface. The formations and chambers are very beautiful and wonderful and much the same as you will see in smaller caves such as Luray in Virginia. After

winding rd passing many dirt-out rooms and seeing lakes we came to a very large room filled with tables and seats where lunches were sold for 40 cents each and coffee, tea or drinks of your choice could be had. In this room souveniers were sold and modern rest rooms were available.

At this point because of limited time we took the elevator to the surface. Other large sections were still to be explored. Just a word about the discovery and early history. Jim White, a cattle ranger came to a cave of black limestone from the mountain top to the heavens and determined to investigate. In his search he found millions of bats leaving a hole in the mountain side.

This led him to examine the cave and he made many trips down and further until he finally got some one to go with him and using a lantern he went several hundred feet underground.

One time he says his oil pump cut and in the darkness he thought the jig was up for him, but like all good stories, he finally found the way out and after a time he sold the San took over and is now operating. I bought the booklet, "Jim's Own Story" and the pictures and the story make about thirty minutes of very interesting reading.

I must get along or Mr. Robinson will cut out about half I am saying.

Thursday, January 11th, we finished the day at Denning, New Mexico, having traveled 515 miles this day.

In the first six months of 1950, the average Iowa acre is earning between \$4.50 and \$6.00 a month, cash, the Iowa development commission reports. Which means that the average 160-acre farm, under good management, is bringing in \$720, gross per month, or \$8,640 a year. That figures out \$4.95 per month, per acre, or \$485 per month for each 100 acres of Iowa land being farmed. In the first six months of 1950, the average Iowa farmer's year - Iowa farm income came to \$27 per acre, or \$4,800 per month for every 100 acres of farm land.

The commission hastened to repeat that the figure is gross income. Out of the farmer must pay for power and machinery, labor, feed, feeder stock and breeding stock before he arrives at his own salary.

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On a farm where there are many hogs to feed ideas that will save labor usually are appreciated. The storage tank for hog slop, shown in the above illustration, has been used on a number of farms successfully. Materials needed include two pieces of 3-inch pipe 6 inches long, one piece of 3-inch pipe 12 inches long and two 3-inch elbows and assemble them as shown in the illustration. Mount the barrel on a box 30 inches high, placed close to the fence so that the pipe may go through into the feeding trough. Make a plunger out of soft wood.

U.S. Consumer Demands Better Quality Meats

The national economic picture and the more nearly equalized meat production in relation to consumption are putting much greater emphasis on quality or grade of meat animals than was true in the last several years of meat scarcity, livestock specialists report.

Live stock producers are now attempting to produce animals which nearly meet consumer demand for quality product.

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Farm Topics

Milk Used as Plant Food in Experiment
Scientists Report Milk Benefits Some Flowers

Montana State college scientists report milk is as good as some flowers and vegetables as for values.

The use of milk in horticulture, particularly in greenhouse operations, is new and still in the development stage. But many growers in the Pacific northwest already are reaping benefits.

Commercial flower producers say milk makes petunias grow faster.

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ELECTRIC RANGE STUDY UNDERWAY IN VIRGINIA

A field study designed to find out what the farm wife thinks of her electric range—and how it performs for her—is underway in Virginia. Campbell G. Chambliss, assistant agricultural engineer for the Experiment Station, and project leader, says some 1,000 farm families who use electric ranges will be interviewed. In addition, over 100 electric ranges in typical Virginia farm homes throughout the state are being metered.

The interviews are being conducted by 90 white and 25 Negro home demonstration agents, 173 white and 59 Negro home economics teachers, and home economists from electric service organizations. They are asking the housewives how they operate ranges and their opinions. The county home agents and the service organization economists also are conducting the metering work.

The researchers want to know what it costs to cook for various size families during any month of the year, and if the ranges are being used economically and efficiently.

They also are seeking the housewives' opinions as to how design and operation of ranges could be improved.

Winchester Lions Club donates \$2,000 to Boy Scout Fund.

It's about time to prune your grape vines.

Bruce Aron, associate horticulturist at V. P. L., says from mid-February until the buds swell, is the best time to prune.

Canes will bleed if they are cut after the sap starts to run while buds are swelling. Adjust the amount of pruning to the vigor of the vine. Leave fewer canes and buds on young or weak vines. If too much cane and bud carrying wood remains after pruning, grape bunches may be small and scrawny, while too heavy pruning reduces yields and promotes excessive wood growth.

Aron says the first year after planting all but the strongest cane should be pruned off. The remaining cane should be cut back to two buds.

HOMEMAKERS' ITEMS
To keep paint brushes from getting stiff—use lard oil.

This old-time oil was formerly used for tanning, and for lubricating turner's machine shops. But lard oil has now been found to be valuable for keeping brushes in good condition. All you clean the brush, dip in lard oil, shape the brush, and then wrap in aluminum foil. A bath in turpentine will remove the lard oil when you're ready to use the brush again.

Lard oil may not be easy to find, but it's worth looking for. If your paint stores or machine shops don't have any, they may be willing to order some for you.

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